



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION FOR
WOMEN
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET
DEPARTMENT HEAD CONFERENCE ROOM 383
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
<http://LACCW.lacounty.gov>**

Monday, April 14, 2014

10:00 AM

AUDIO LINK FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (14-1798)

Attachments: [AUDIO](#)

Present: President Veda E. Ward Ph.D., Vice President Becky A. Shevlin, Commissioner Reiko Duba, Commissioner Ana Maria Garcia, Commissioner Alice S. Petrossian and Commissioner Olivia G. Rodriguez

Excused: Treasurer Charlotte Lesser, Commissioner Carolyn Aoki-Hyatt, Commissioner Dora de la Rosa,, Commissioner Norma L. Gallegos and Commissioner Gerda Govine Ed.D.

Call to Order. (14-1258)

President Veda E. Ward, Ph.D. called the meeting to order at 10:31 a.m., and welcomed the Commissioners and guests to the meeting.

President Ward acknowledged Commissioner Denita Willoughby and introduced her as the Second District's new appointee to the Commission. She also directed staff to include an item on the May 12, 2014 agenda, to provide an opportunity for Commissioner Willoughby to properly introduce herself to the Commission.

Rhonda Rangel, Acting Assistant Division Chief, Commission Services, introduced Bolaji Famuyiwa, Roy Sinclair and Jenny Kimbell as the Commission for Women's new staff.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Approval of Minutes for the meeting of February 10, 2014. (14-1259)

On motion of Vice President Becky A. Shevlin, seconded by Commissioner Reiko Duba, unanimously carried, this item was approved.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

2. Discussion and Action regarding a possible name change of the "Girls at-Risk" Educational Scholarship Program. (14-1507)

President Ward advised the Commission that this item was placed on the agenda because a discussion was raised on whether or not the Commission is consistently using the name "Girls at-Risk" in all its correspondence when referring to the scholarship program.

A few of the Commissioners raised concerns and concurred that the name "Girls at-Risk" does have a negative connotation and the Commission should consider looking into another name that maybe more positive and proactive.

During discussion, Commissioner Rodriguez recommended that the Commission consider the background and history of how the name of the scholarship program came about. She stated that the name is tied to specific organizations that in the past sponsored the Commission's 5K Run/Walk event and made significant contributions to the scholarship program.

During further discussion, Commissioner Petrossian, Chair, Education Committee, asked that the Commissioners submit some name recommendations to be considered for the scholarship program. The Education Committee will review and bring the top five recommendations to the Commission for consideration and the final decision will be made at the August Retreat.

Following discussion, by Common Consent, there being no objection, this item was continued to the May 12, 2014 meeting.

II. REPORTS

3. President's Report for April 2014. (14-1260)

President Ward noted that her report was attached to the agenda for Commissioners to read. She also reminded the Commissioners that Mother's Day is approaching and they should think of some initiatives that they can use as speaking points for the various community organizations the represent.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

4. Committee Reports for April 2014:

- Education Committee
- Luncheon Committee (14-1261)

Education Committee:

Commissioner Petrossian, Chair, Education Committee, reported that the 2014 Educational Scholarship Applications were distributed and the application submittal deadline is April 14, 2014. The Education Committee is in the process of forming the Scholarship Review Panel (SRP); and so far two Commissioners have volunteered, as well as Dr. Robina Smith, one of the 2014 Women of the Year (WOY) honorees. Commissioner Petrossian further reported that the number of scholarships awarded this year will be contingent upon what was realized from this year's WOY event.

Commissioner Petrossian expressed concerns and asked for clarification on whether or not the SRP needs to be comprised of a majority of the Commissioners. Commissioner Rodriguez clarified that although it may not be in writing, the Commissioners have discussed in the past for the SRP to comprise of more Commissioners.

After a brief discussion, Commissioners Duba and Petrossian concurred that it may be beneficial to bring in other talented women from the outside who are interested in volunteering their time, as this will allow these individuals to become more aware and involved with the business of the Commission.

Commissioner Petrossian recommended that the Commission needs to revisit and review its bylaws to ensure the Commissioners have

consistent understanding of the process and also recommend possible revisions to the bylaws to ensure the processes in place are working well for the Commission.

President Veda directed the staff to include this item on the August retreat agenda for further discussion.

Luncheon Committee:

Vice President Becky A. Shevlin, Chair, Luncheon Committee, reported that the Committee has not received the financial report from the 2014 WOY Luncheon. The report should be available at the May meeting. She also reported that there were 374 attendees at the luncheon and she received positive feedback from numerous attendees. She further advised the Commission that she has been invited by Salene Giron of the Board of Supervisors' Executive Office to be a speaker at the Annual Los Angeles County Secretarial Council's Seminar, to be held on May 15, 2014.

Commissioner Duba congratulated staff and the Commission for doing a wonderful job with the WOY Luncheon. Commissioner Petrossian also noted that the support this year's honorees received from their families, friends and colleagues really made a difference.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT-EDUCATION](#)

5. Staff Report for April 2014. (14-1262)

Staff reported that the 2014 Scholarship Award Board presentation will be held on June 10, 2014 during the Board of Supervisors weekly meeting. She also reported that the Commission for WOY Luncheon Survey forms were sent out and there was only one response.

Staff also showed the samples of the proposed promotional items that will be ordered per the Commission's direction. After a review, the Commission approved the samples and directed staff to place the order for 500 pens and 150 tote bags at a total cost of \$497.94.

Staff concluded the report by reminding the Commission that the National Association of Commissions for Women's (NACW) annual conference and business meeting is scheduled to be held on July 23-26, 2014 in Sarasota, Florida and the Commission needs to determine who will represent them at the conference.

After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Alice Petrossian, seconded by Commissioner Olivia G. Rodriguez, unanimously carried, the Commission approved sending one Commissioner to the NACW meeting in an amount not to exceed \$1,200.00.

III. PRESENTATIONS

- 6. Presentation on the history of the Beach Cities Health District's Blue Zones Project and its impact on the overall health of people in the communities that participated in the project.**

Presenter:

- o Lauren Nakano, Director, Blue Zones Project at Beach Cities Health District. (14-1506)**

Lauren Nakano, Director, Blue Zones Project at Beach Cities Health District (Health District), provided a PowerPoint presentation on the history of the Beach Cities Health District. She stated that the Health District came into existence during the 1950s, and during the 1990s the hospital switched from providing traditional hospital services to people in the community, to impacting their quality of life and keeping them healthy through healthy choices such as nutrition and fitness. The Health District is one of the largest primary prevention agencies in the United States. In addition, she stated that approximately 25% of the hospital's funding comes from taxpayers, no money comes from the state or federal government with an additional \$10 million coming from the Health District's endowment or fee based services.

Ms. Nakano also highlighted three Blue Zone Strategies: 1) Engage communities; 2) Change where people work and play; and 3) make healthy choices. Approximately ten years ago, the district partnered with three school districts to target the health and well-being of children, especially the issue of obesity in children, while other programs offered by the Health District focus on the health of the elderly and the aging generation.

During discussion, President Ward thanked Ms. Nakano for her presentation and stated that the Commission looks forward to possibly partnering with the Health District's Blue Zone Project or a similar program to the other communities.

Ms. Nakano responded to questions posed by the Commission.

Following discussion, by Common Consent, there being no objection, the report was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

- 7.** Presentation on the history of the City of Los Angeles' Commission on the Status of Women, and partnership opportunities. (Continued from the meetings of 12-9-13 and 2-10-14)

Presenter:

- Farrah Parker, M.A., Executive Director, City of Los Angeles Commission on the Status of Women. (13-5224)

Farrah Parker, M.A., Executive Director, City of Los Angeles Commission on the Status of Women (LACSW), provided a PowerPoint presentation on the history of the LACSW. She stated that she's been with the City of Los Angeles for over ten years and that her primary focus is on economic development for women and pay equity for women.

The Commission is currently working to gain acceptance of women in the Los Angeles City Fire Department by changing the culture of the work environment for women. Ms. Parker invited the Commissioners to attend the LACSW meeting in order to bolster ways to collaborate.

President Ward stated that both Commissions should partner in mentoring the scholarship awards recipients and let them know that there will be many employment opportunities that will be available to them once they graduate from college; and that getting an education is just part of the process of gaining their financial independence.

Following discussion, by Common Consent, there being no objection, the report was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

IV. DISCUSSIONS

- 8.** Discussion, nomination and approval of the Commission for Women's 2015 "Women of the Year" awards Luncheon Committee members. (14-1264)

During discussion, Commissioners Garcia, Petrossian and Willoughby volunteered to serve as members of the 2015 Luncheon Committee.

President Ward provided clarification on the process and procedures for appointing members to the Ad-Hoc Committees and noted that the full 2015 WOY Luncheon Committee appointments have to be ratified by the full body of the Commission.

Following discussion, by Common Consent, there being no objection, this item was continued to the meeting of May 12, 2014 without discussion.

9. Submission of Declaration of Candidacy Form for office term July 2014 to June 2016. (14-1266)

By Common Consent, there being no objection, this item was continued to the meeting of May 12, 2014 without discussion.

Attachments: [DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY FORM](#)

10. Discussion and consideration for approval of the Santa Clarita Valley Branch of the American Association of University Women's (AAUW) Application for Donation request. (14-1265)

On motion of Commissioner Reiko Duba, seconded by Commissioner Alice S. Petrossian, a donation request by Santa Clarita Valley Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) to send two girls to the 2014 AAUW Tech Trek summer camps in the amount of \$1,800.00 was approved .

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

11. Discussion and recommendations of potential speakers for the 2015 "*Women of the Year*" Awards Luncheon. (14-1267)

By Common Consent, there being no objection, this item was continued to the meeting of May 12, 2014 without discussion.

12. Discussion and recommendations to establish a mechanism to stay connected, follow-up and maintain appropriate data on the success rate of the scholarship program recipients. (14-1268)

By Common Consent, there being no objection, this item was continued to the meeting of May 12, 2014 without discussion.

13. Discussion and recommendations of effective ways to enlist college students to serve as interns and assist the Commission with data collection. (14-1269)

By Common Consent, there being no objection, this item was continued to the meeting of May 12, 2014 without discussion.

V. MISCELLANEOUS

14. Commissioners' Announcements for April 2014. (14-1263)

By Common Consent, there being no objection, this item was continued to the meeting of May 12, 2014 without discussion.

Matters Not Posted

15. Matters not on the posted agenda, to be discussed and (if requested) placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting of the Committee, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action arose subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (Continued from the meetings of 1/13/14 and 2/10/14) (14-0143)

There were no matters presented for a future agenda.

Public Comment

16. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (14-1284)

Dr. Genevieve Clavreul addressed the Commission and shared a few articles.

Adjournment

17. Adjournment for the meeting of Monday, April 14, 2014. (14-1285)

The April 14, 2014 meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.